



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:00 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - July 18, 2001

- ***In the West***, mild weather favors small grain development across ***northwestern areas***, although soil moisture remains limited for pastures and dryland crops.
- ***On the Plains***, hot, dry conditions continue to adversely affect summer crops, including corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, and peanuts, across ***central and southern areas***. Today's high temperatures are forecast to range from 100 to 105 degrees in portions of ***Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, much-needed rain is dampening portions of the region, easing the effects of a dry spell that began across ***northern areas*** around June 20. Hot weather persists in the ***westernmost Corn Belt***, including much of ***Nebraska***, but today's high temperatures are forecast to remain generally at or below 90 degrees F ***east of the Missouri River***.
- ***In the South***, very warm, mostly dry weather is increasing crop-water requirements, although most areas still have enough topsoil moisture to prevent significant stress on pastures and summer crops.

Outlook: Beneficial rainfall is forecast to continue in the ***Midwest*** for the remainder of the week, while scattered showers will return to parts of the ***South***. Hot, mostly dry conditions will persist across the ***central and southern Plains and westernmost Corn Belt***, but below-normal temperatures are expected in the ***West***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 23-27 calls for a continuation of hot, dry weather in the ***south-central U.S.*** Near- to above-normal rainfall will help to offset the effects of above-normal temperatures in the ***Southwest, northern Plains, and Corn Belt***. Mostly dry weather is expected in the ***Southeast***, accompanied by near-normal temperatures.

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